

## CONGRATULATING KYRAN HAGAN

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2015*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kyran Hagan, of the Eureka High School Wildcat Wrestling team, on his win in the 120 Class 4 2015 State Wrestling Championship match.

This student and his coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Kyran Hagan for a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
PEACE CORPS WEEK**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2015*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues and the over 6,800 Peace Corps volunteers around the globe in commemorating National Peace Corps Week which coincides with the 54th Anniversary of the Peace Corps. Since its beginning in the Kennedy Administration, nearly 220,000 Americans have served in 140 developing nations around the world.

These volunteers serve as teachers, health care service providers and educators helping to bring needed care to communities that lack access. Their vision and commitment to bettering the world around them has helped make enduring contributions in agriculture, education, health and HIV/AIDS, youth, and technology in developing countries. Additionally, returned Peace Corps volunteers are the type of leaders we need in all sectors of our society to help face the many challenges in our own country.

And as a strong reminder that growing numbers of young Americans want to go and make a difference in this world, in 2014, the Peace Corps received a 22-year high of 17,336 applications. But it is not only young Americans making a difference in the Peace Corps. A growing number of volunteers are over age 50.

A total of 5,800 volunteers from my home state of Wisconsin have served in the Peace Corps since its founding, including my distinguished former colleague from Wisconsin, Congressman Tom Petri. On a per capita basis, Wisconsin ranked 9th in the nation in sending Peace Corps Volunteers in 2013 with the University of Wisconsin-Madison among the tops in the nation among large colleges and universities in sending Peace Corps volunteers overseas.

Over 200 Wisconsinites are currently serving. I want to personally thank the seven volunteers from my district who are currently serving in the Peace Corps. Caitlin Connolly, Adam Coonen, Sarmera Hassan, Casimir Korducki, Jodi Lemmer, Daniel Pologe, and Lindsey Powell. From Belize to Zambia, these young people are representing the best of Milwaukee and of America. I am very proud of them.

As a representative for the great state of Wisconsin, I strongly support the goals of the Peace Corps and the passion and commitment of its volunteers on behalf of the United States. I am pleased that the President's FY2016 request includes \$30 million increase in funding to help increase the number of volunteers serving.

As our world continues to struggle with natural disasters, diseases such as Ebola, conflict and instability, fledgling transitions to democracy, and poverty and hunger, the Peace Corps will be a vital part of the U.S. diplomatic and development response and a sign of our nation's long term commitment to helping alleviating suffering around the globe.

I congratulate the Peace Corps and their volunteers on this momentous occasion. It is an excellent example of the type of program we need to invest in as part of our efforts to promote development, peace, and stability around the globe.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2015*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote yesterday because of a serious illness in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call #107—YEA.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
FATHER THEODORE HESBURGH**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2015*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to praise a great man, Father Theodore Hesburgh, on whom Congress proudly bestowed the Congressional Gold Medal in 2000. On Thursday, February 26, America lost a dedicated member of the clergy, an exceptional educator, a caring humanitarian, a civil rights champion, and one of the most outstanding leaders of our era: Reverend Theodore Martin Hesburgh, former president of the University of Notre Dame, who passed away last week at the age of 97. Father Hesburgh leaves behind a towering legacy that inspires all of us to keep fighting for a world that honors the spark of divinity in each one of us.

Father Hesburgh encouraged those he encountered to "be the kind of person who not only understands the injustices of this life, but is also willing to do something about them." He lived his life by that standard—never failing to answer the call to serve in any capacity.

Throughout his life, Father Hesburgh was called to serve and advance the cause of human dignity and justice in our society. He was named to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He marched arm-in-arm with Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. He was an insistent champion for the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, and his contributions to that effort earned him the Medal of Freedom from President Lyndon Baines Johnson. Time and again, he stood up and

spoke out for peace, justice and equality for all people—and as former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young once said, "If Father Hesburgh was for you, you didn't care who was against you."

Father Hesburgh was first called to serve his faith and his fellow Catholics. After undergraduate school at Notre Dame, Hesburgh traveled to Rome to study at the Gregorian University. When war broke out, he returned home and, in 1943, Father Hesburgh fulfilled his childhood dream when he was ordained at his alma mater as a priest in the Congregation of Holy Cross—a day he described as "the happiest" of his life. He would go on to earn a doctorate of theological studies at the Catholic University of America, but he returned to his beloved Notre Dame where he first served as chaplain following World War II and would continue to say Mass throughout his whole life.

Father Hesburgh was called to serve the future of our country as a brilliant educator and administrator. He ministered to the Notre Dame community as a professor, chairman of the Department of Religion, and executive vice president, and in 1952, at the age of 35, Father Hesburgh became the 15th President of the University of Notre Dame. Under his historic 35 years of leadership, Notre Dame opened its doors to women, increased work-force diversity, doubled its enrollment, expanded its endowment, and cemented its place as one of the greatest universities in the world.

Yet President Hesburgh's imprint extended further than a single campus. He demonstrated how to transform Catholic universities into exemplary institutions of higher education in modern times. He championed academic freedom and the pursuit of academic excellence. In recognition of his extraordinary leadership, he was entrusted with 16 presidential appointments, including service on the Presidential Clemency Board, the National Science Board, and as ambassador to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development. He served as the Holy See's permanent representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency under three popes. In 1999, he received his 150th honorary degree, more than any other person in history.

In every position, after every honor, Father Hesburgh never lost sight of his purpose. As he once told a group of graduates, "We will not be judged by our degrees, but by our lives." By any standard, President Hesburgh was exceptional.

Father Hesburgh's career illustrates the quote attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, "preach the Gospel and sometimes use words." As a patriot of our country, as a leader of his church, as a teacher and mentor, he lived the Gospel each and every day of his storied life.

On the streets, in classrooms, and in boardrooms, Father Ted—as he was known by his friends and his students—was courageous enough to speak out against injustice, compassionate enough to bring healing to the downtrodden, and creative enough to propose ideas that improved the lives of all people. Today and forever more, the legacy of Father Ted will live on in the lives he touched, the institutions he influenced, the Church he loved, and the nation he was proud to call home. We are grateful for his courage, in awe of his